



In the United States Patent and Trademark Office

RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP. NO. 1623

In re patent application of:

Yogesh Sanghvi et al.

Serial No.: 09/438,989

Group No.: 1623

Filed: November 12, 1999

Examiner: H. Owens

For: **GAPPED OLIGOMERS HAVING SITE SPECIFIC CHIRAL PHOSPHOROTHIOATE INTERNUCLEOSIDE LINKAGES**

EXPRESS MAIL LABEL NO. EV252263250US

DATE OF DEPOSIT: March 11, 2003

Assistant Commissioner
for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

This responds to the Final Office Action mailed on January 14, 2003 ("the Office Action"). Applicants respectfully request that the following amendments be entered. In view of the Amendments and remarks to follow, Applicants request that the rejections be reconsidered and withdrawn.

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-22 and 44, without prejudice to their presentation in a continuing patent application.

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